THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, April 13, 1801.

An Account of the Fair held at Leipſic laſt Michaelmas.

BY a concurrence of many favourable circumſtances this celebrated fair has not for many years paſt been ſo numerouſly attended, nor have there been ſuch quantities of goods ſold as at laſt fair. The King of Pruſſia, ſtill perſiſting in his mandate not to ſuffer any foreign purchaſer or ſeller to viſit the fair of Frankfort on the Oder, all the merchants and dealers came from the Pruſſian parts of Poland, to obtain neceſſary ſupplies at Leipſic. There were about 6000 Auſtrian and Ruſſian merchants, who came to make purchaſes, the moſt of them Jews; many of whom bought goods to the amount of eighty or an hundred thouſand ducats.

Another favourable circumſtance for this fair was, the general augmentation of the toll and cuſtom-houſe duties in all the Ruſſian harbours and ſtaple-places on the frontiers, which took place on New Year's-day, 1801. This riſe of cuſtoms will amount to fifty per cent. upon many articles. This new reſtriction laid upon commerce in Ruſſia being fortunately known long before the Imperial ukaſes upon the ſubject were promulgated, every Ruſſian merchant took care to lay in a good ſtore in time, and applied all his ready money and credit to the filling of his warehouſe with goods.

The fair of Frankfort on the Mein, which is the moſt celebrated held in Germany next to Leipſic, having been thinly attended and uncommonly unfavourable, owing to the threatened renewal of hoſtilities, and the exactions of the French,

a great deal of buſineſs, originally intended to have been tranſacted at this fair, was transferred to that of Leipſic, which conſequently ſerved to multiply the demand made for certain articles.

All articles of luxury and neceſſity, that are in requeſt in the north and eaſt of Europe, ſuch as ſilks, muſlins, printed cottons, cloths, and kerſeymeres, went off very rapidly; and the French merchants rivalled the Engliſh in the ſale of them: but the ſale of the Engliſh goods, compared to that of the French, was as ten to one. The Engliſh merchants, very ſhrewdly, had recourſe to the manœuvre of ſending off ſuch goods as were ordered of them much later from Hamburgh than thoſe that they brought to the fair on their own account.

By this trick it happened that the great warehouſes of many Leipſic merchants ſtood empty for a whole week, waiting for the promiſed ſupply from Hamburgh; while the large Engliſh repoſitories were ſtowed full of goods from top to bottom, and, owing to the great number of purchaſers, were emptied quite as faſt.

The warehouſe of Humphries and Co. afforded a ſingular ſpectacle. He had rented it at the enormous price of a thouſand ducats, only during the continuance of the fair. The Ruſſian and Poliſh purchaſers crowded in ſuch numbers to this repoſitory, which the diſappointed and jealous German merchants nick-named *the Britiſh Box of Pandora*, that it became neceſſary to ſtation ſentinels at the different paſſages leading to it, and even in the apartments, and to diſtribute admiſſion tickets and counter tickets.

A Jew merchant, of the name of Brody, bought on his own account of Mr. Humphries, commodities exceeding the ſum of 50,000 ducats.

The cheapneſs of many Engliſh manufactures was quite inconceivable, and made the Saxon manufacturers, who had nothing of the kind to offer, curſe every Engliſh merchant at the fair.

The Saxon manufacturers have indeed introduced the uſe of ſpinning machines in their eſtabliſhments; but their efforts are ſo liſtleſs, and the encouragement they give to the work-people ſo ſcanty, that they cannot expect any beneficial reſult from this innovation; and, beſides, the Engliſh machines acquire daily ſo many improvements, that it is impoſſible for any German manufacturer to cope with them.

Among the Engliſh cotton goods, the elegant flowered tapeſtry, which now replaces the ſilk and paper ornaments in the

the German apartments, was very much in demand. Whole ſuits were bought for chairs and ſophas; and the neatneſs and elegancy of workmanſhip, the duration and luſtre of the colours, and the good taſte or faſhionableneſs of the patterns proved an irreſiſtable attraction to purchaſe this article, of which Swanſea boaſts of being the mart.

Engliſh bills were much ſought for at Leipſic, and roſe in price as the demand increaſed; but the German paper, eſpecially Vienna bills, was diſcounted with great loſs.

There never were ſo many firms of Britiſh houſes announced at Leipſic, as there were at the laſt fair, eſpecially a great number of Scotch houſes from Glaſgow.

Next to the Engliſh, the French merchants and their agents derived the greateſt advantage from this fair. The French ſilk ſtuffs continue to be preferred to thoſe manufactured in England, throughout the north. A ſingle houſe, namely, that of Alexander Gontart, of Frankfort on the Mein, ſold alone French ſilks to the amount of half a million of florins. The beneficial effects of the domeſtic tranquillity of France manifeſt themſelves plainly in the revival and flouriſhing condition of her manufactures. The Firſt Conſul ſeems to have made Lyons and its fabrics a particular object of his attention; a merchant who lately left that city declares, that within theſe laſt ſix months 8000 additional artiſans and workmen have been taken into employment.

Beſides the ſilks, France alſo ſupplied the laſt Leipſic fair with a large aſſortment of beautiful cloth, in which article the houſe of Chataigny at Sedan, excites particular notice. There were alſo ſeveral rich aſſortments of Louviers-cloth, which is manufactured with Spaniſh wool.

Of the Engliſh woollen manufactures the fine ſwanſkins and fleecy hoſiery had a prodigious ſale.

French laces of every denomination went off likewiſe very rapidly. The ancient luxury diſplayed by the French Court in the Alencon lace *(point d'Alencon)* was the effect of the financial policy of the great French Miniſter Colbert. A Princeſs of the blood, on her marriage, or while lying-in, would uſe at leaſt a quantity of *point d'Alencon* worth 40,000 livres; and on great Court days Louis XVI. himſelf would wear a ruff of the fineſt lace of that kind over his royal robes. The etiquette of the French Court always communicated itſelf to other great and ſmall Courts, and thus the article of lace was very early in great requeſt and eſtimation. Modern faſhion has baniſhed the ruffles, but of late years the Engliſh ladies choſe to wear veils all of lace of the

moſt coſtly kind.—Pearls, gold chains, and diamonds may be eaſily imitated ſo as to create an illuſion of reality; but this artificial imitation becomes impoſſible in fine lace. The faſhion of wearing it has become univerſal throughout the north; and the lace manufactures of Bruſſels and Alencon have experienced vaſt benefit from it. Now every woman of the leaſt note in Germany, Ruſſia, &c. muſt wear dreſſes trimmed with lace to the value of at leaſt 20 or 30l. The demand for this article was prodigious at the Leipſic fair. A French merchant from Wiemar ſold a ſingle veil to the Ruſſian Princeſs Dolgoroucky, for 100 louis d'ors, made of *point d'Alencon*, and reaching only to the waiſt. Some have ſince been ordered of greater length, at the price of 250 and 300 louis d'ors each. Several Ruſſian nobles, eſpecially the Counts of Orlow and Buxhoevden, were truly ſplendid in their expences at the fair.

There was not much buſineſs done in the fur trade, though the fair was ſupplied by the Engliſh with large quantities from Canada and Nootka Sound. But the ſevere prohibition of the Emperor of Ruſſia againſt the importation of this article ſpoiled the ſale.

The Poliſh Jews, eſpecially thoſe in the Auſtrian ſhare of Poland, bought up all the muſical inſtruments that could be had. Being aſked the reaſon of this extraordinary demand, they anſwered: "We have now an Emperor for our maſter, who permits us to play, whereas formerly our nobles, and petty tyrants would never allow us that innocent amuſement."

Publications in German, French, and Engliſh had a very ſucceſsful ſale, eſpecially the new almanacks for 1801, of which there were no leſs than fifty different ſorts. The Ruſſian merchants, however, bought no literary works, as the Emperor perſiſts in his prohibition of foreign publications. This prohibition is ſo rigorous, that the bookſellers at Riga, who had a conſiderable ſtock on hand, were obliged by a mandate of Paul I. to ſhut up their ſhops.

The Leipſic fair abounded with pictures and engravings. Drappeau, the Paris print and picture-ſeller, offered for ſale the remains of many a cabinet and gallery of pictures; and their valuable and rich frames plainly ſhewed that their former owners were men of great rank and affluence. There were many maſter-pieces of the Flemiſh ſchool, which were ſold at a very low rate.

Apples and pears were bought up for Ruſſia and Sweden to the amount of near 20,000l.

Remarkable

Remarkable Anecdote of Profeſſor Junker, of the Univerſity of Halle.

MANY, who were perſonally acquainted with this celebrated character, have frequently heard him relate the following anecdote.

Being profeſſor of anatomy, he once procured for diſſection, the bodies of two criminals who had been hanged. The key of the diſſecting-room not being immediately at hand when they were carried home to him, he ordered them to be laid down in a cloſet which opened into his own apartment.

The evening came, and Junker, according to cuſtom, proceeded to reſume his literary labours before he retired to reſt.

It was now near midnight, and all his family were faſt aſleep, when he heard a rumbling noiſe in his cloſet. Thinking that, by ſome miſtake, the cat had been ſhut up with the dead bodies, he roſe, and taking the candle, went to ſee what had happened. But what muſt have been his aſtoniſhment, or rather his panic, on perceiving that the ſack, which contained the two bodies, was rent through the middle. He approached, and found that one of them was gone.

The doors and windows were well ſecured, and he thought it impoſſible the bodies could have been ſtolen. He trembling looked round the cloſet, and—obſerved the dead man ſeated in a corner.

Junker ſtood, for a moment motionleſs; the dead man ſeemed to look towards him: he moved both to the right and left; but the dead man ſtill kept his eyes upon him.

The profeſſor then retired, ſtep by ſtep, with his eye ſtill fixed upon the object of his alarm, and holding the candle in his hand, until he reached the door. The dead man inſtantly ſtarted up, and followed him. A figure of ſo hideous an appearance, naked, and in motion, the lateneſs of the hour, the deep ſilence which prevailed—every thing concurred to overwhelm him with confuſion. He let fall the only candle which he had burning, and all was darkneſs. He made his eſcape to his bed-chamber, and threw himſelf on the bed; thither, however, he was alſo purſued; and he ſoon felt the dead man embracing his legs, and loudly ſobbing.

Repeated cries of "Leave me! leave me!" releaſed Junker from the graſp of the dead man, who now exclaimed,

claimed, " Ah! good executioner! good executioner! have mercy upon me."

Junker ſoon perceived the cauſe of what had happened, and reſumed his fortitude. He informed the re-animated ſufferer, who he really was, and made a motion, in order to call up ſome of the family, " You wiſh then to deſtroy me," exclaimed the criminal. " If you call any one, my adventure will become publick, and I ſhall be taken and executed a ſecond time. In the name of humanity, I implore you to ſave my life."

The phyſician ſtruck a light, decorated his gueſt with an old night gown, and having made him take off a cordial, requeſted to know what had brought him to the gibbet.

" It would have been a truly ſingular exhibition." obſerved Junker, " to have ſeen me, at that late hour, engaged in a tête á tête with a dead man, decked out in a night gown."

The poor wretch informed him that he had enliſted as a ſoldier, but that having no great attachment to the profeſſion he had determined to deſert; that he had unfortunately entruſted his ſecret to a kind of crimp; a fellow of no principle, who recommended him to a woman, in whoſe houſe he was to remain concealed; that this woman had diſcovered his retreat to the officers of police, &c. &c. &c.

Junker was extremely perplexed how to ſave the poor man. It was impoſſible to retain him in his own houſe, and keep the affair a ſecret; and to turn him out of doors, was to expoſe him to certain deſtruction. He reſolved to conduct him out of the city, in order that he might get into a foreign juriſdiction; but it was neceſſary to paſs the gates of the city, which were ſtrictly guarded. To accompliſh this point, he dreſſed the man in ſome of his old cloaths, covered him with a cloak, and, at an early hour, ſet out for the country his protègè behind him.

On arriving at the city gate, where he was well known, he ſaid in a hurried tone, that he had been ſent for to viſit a ſick perſon who was dying in the ſuburbs.

He was permitted to paſs. Having both got into the open fields, the deſerter threw himſelf at the feet of his deliverer, to whom he vowed eternal gratitude; and after receiving ſome pecuniary aſſiſtance, departed, offering up prayers for his happineſs.

Twelve years after, Junker, having occaſion to go to Amſterdam, was accoſted on the exchange, by a man well dreſſed

and of the beſt appearance, who, he had been informed, was one of the moſt reſpectable merchants in that city.

The merchant in a polite tone, enquired whether he was not Profeſſor Junker, of Halle; and, on being anſwered in the affirmative, he requeſted, in an earneſt manner, his company to dinner. The profeſſor conſented.

Having reached the merchant's houſe, he was ſhewn into an elegant apartment, where he found a beautiful wife, and two fine healthy children; but he could ſcarcely ſuppreſs his aſtoniſhment at meeting ſo cordial a reception from a family with whom, he thought, he was entirely unacquainted.

After dinner, the merchant, taking him into his counting-room, ſaid "You do not recollect me?"—"Not at all."—"But I well recollect you, and never ſhall your features be effaced from my remembrance. You are my benefactor. I am the perſon who came to life in your cloſet, and to whom you paid ſo much attention. On parting from you I took the road to Holland. I wrote a good hand, was tolerably expert at accounts; my figure was ſomewhat intereſting, and I ſoon obtained employment as a merchant's clerk. My good conduct, and my zeal for the intereſts of my patron, procured me his confidence and his daughter's love.

"On his retiring from buſineſs, I ſucceeded him, and became his ſon-in-law. But for you, however, I ſhould not have lived to experience all theſe enjoyments. Henceforth, look upon my houſe, my fortune, and myſelf, as at your diſpoſal."

Thoſe who poſſeſs the ſmalleſt portion of ſenſibilty, can eaſily repreſent to themſelves the feelings of Junker.

Origin of Garrick's Method of acting King Lear.

From Murphy's Life of that celebrated Actor.

IT was in Lear's madneſs that Garrick's genius was remarkably diſtinguiſhed. He had no ſudden ſtarts, no violent geſticulation; his movements were ſlow and feeble; miſery was depicted in his countenance; he moved his head in the moſt deliberate manner; his eyes were fixed, or, if they turned to any one near him, he made a pauſe, and fixed his look on the perſon after much delay; his features at the ſame time telling what he was going to ſay, before he uttered a word. During the whole time he preſented a ſight of woe

and

and miſery, and a total alienation of mind from every idea but that of his unkind daughters.

He was uſed to tell how he acquired the hints that guided him, when he began to ſtudy this great and difficult part; he was acquainted with a worthy man, who lived in Leman-ſtreet, Goodman's Fields; this friend had an only daughter, about two years old; he ſtood at the dining-room window, fondling the child, and dangling it in his arms, when it was his misfortune to drop the infant into a flagged area, and killed it on the ſpot. He remained at his window ſcreaming in agonies of grief

The neighbours flocked to the houſe, took up the child, and delivered it dead to the unhappy father, who wept bitterly, and filled the ſtreet with lamentations. He loſt his ſenſes, and frem that moment never recovered his underſtanding.

As he had a ſufficient fortune, his friends choſe to let him remain in his houſe, under two keepers appointed by Dr. Monro.

Garrick frequently went to ſee his diſtracted friend, who paſſed the remainder of his life in going to the window, and there playing in fancy with his child. After ſome dalliance, he dropped it, and, burſting into a flood of tears, filled the houſe with ſhrieks of grief and bitter anguiſh. He then ſat down, in a penſive mood, his eyes fixed on one object, at times looking ſlowly round him as if to implore compaſſion. Garrick was often preſent at this ſcene of miſery, and was ever after uſed to ſay, that it gave him the firſt idea of King Lear's madneſs.

This writer has often ſeen him riſe in company to give a repreſentation of this unfortunate father. He leaned on the back of a chair, ſeeming with parental fondneſs to play with a child, and, after expreſſing the moſt heart-felt delight, he ſuddenly dropped the infant, and inſtantly broke out in a moſt violent agony of grief, ſo tender, ſo affecting, and pathetic that every eye in company was moiſtened with a guſh of tears.

"There it was," ſaid Garrick, "that I learned to imitate madneſs; I copied nature; and to that owed my ſucceſs in King Lear."

It is wonderful to tell that he deſcended from that firſt character in tragedy, to the part of Abel Drugger; he repreſented the tobacco boy in the trueſt comic ſtile: no grimace, no ſtarting, no wild geſticulation. He ſeemed to be a new man.

Hogarth,

Hogarth, the famous painter, ſaw him in Richard III. and on the following night in Abel Drugger: he was ſo ſtruck, that he ſaid to Garrick, "You are in your element, when you are begrimed with dirt, or up to your elbows in blood."

GENERAL REVIEW *of* POLITICS,

For March, 1801.

FRANCE.

BY the late treaty of peace between the Emperor of Germany and the French republic, the Grand Duke of Tuſcany, it is ſaid, is to renounce Tuſcany in favour of the Infant Duke of Parma, and to receive ſome unnamed indemnity, in ſome unknown part of Germany, at ſome unknown period. The Infant Duke of Parma is the near relation of the King of Spain, whoſe attachment to France will of courſe be confirmed, and France will thus be able to ſhut up all the Tuſcan ports againſt Britiſh veſſels. The Emperor renounces all his rights in Italy beyond the Adige.

The French Conſul has had the addreſs to avoid the delay and inconveniences of a congreſs, by throwing upon his Imperial Majeſty the very difficult and invidious taſk of procuring the conſent and adherence of the ſtates of the empire to the preſent treaty, and fixing the indemnities, which we conceive can only be madè by ſeculariſing the biſhoprics. Of the King of Sardinia, or his dominions, not a word is mentioned in this treaty, which has induced a ſuſpicion in the mind of ſome ſpeculators, that the Conſul may have it in idea to put that iſland into the hands of his new ally, Paul the Firſt, and thus gratify his deſire of a ſettlement in the Mediterranean.

It is now become certain that Egypt is the deſtination of Admiral Gantheaume's fleet, which is known to have taken a direction towards the Mediterranean, and is ſuſpected to have been joined by ſeveral Spaniſh ſhips of the line off Ferrol.

From Bamberg, they write of the ceſſion of Franconia to the Grand Duke of Tuſcany, and that Pruſſia is to be indemnified for the ſurrender of Anſpach and Bareuth, by the acquiſition of Hanover, Oſnaburgh, and Hamburgh. The Minden article informs us, that the occupying of Hanover,

Hamburgh, and Bremen, will depend upon the nature of the reply returned by the Court of London.

The official paper of the Firſt Conſul of the 4th of March, contains a letter from Berlin of the 13th of February, communicating the ſubſtance of a conference between the Hanoverian Envoy and the Pruſſian Miniſter. The object of the former was to ſound the intentions of the Pruſſian Government with reſpect to Hanover. He urged the circumſpect manner in which the Hanoverian Government had acted, and drew a diſtinction between Great Britain and Hanover. The Pruſſian Miniſter's reply was brief, but full of meaning: the conduct of Great Britain by ſea was alluded to, and the Miniſter urged, that that conduct gave the Continental powers a right to act in a ſimilar manner by land.

The report that the King of Naples has ſhut his ports againſt the Engliſh ſhipping ſeems to be now confirmed.

The treaty of peace between the republic and Naples is ſigned and ratified, and Citizen Alquier is appointed Ambaſſador to the latter Court.

The opening of the protocole of the Diet of Ratiſbon was fixed for the 6th of March. The Emperor has addreſſed a letter to the Electors and Princes of the empire, ſtating the imperious circumſtances under which he was induced to accede to the treaty of Luneville, and the neceſſity of the immediate ratification of the treaty, as the French troops would not evacuate Germany till it ſhould take place.

The NORTHERN CONFEDERACY.

By intelligence from Hamburgh, we learn, that Lord Carysfort had received a letter from the Pruſſian Miniſter, Count Haugwitz, which may be conſidered as the ultimatum of the King of Pruſſia, who ſpeaks a bold language in defence of the northern convention, and threatens to ſupport the principles on which it is founded, and the claims it advances, by force of arms.

The Cabinet of Peterſburgh beholds with a jealous eye the influence which the Britiſh Government has at Conſtantinople; and the plan of an invaſion of Turkey by the combined armies of two or three great Continental powers, to compel the Grand Seignior to withdraw himſelf from that influence, or to ſeek in theſe provinces for the baſis of a general peace, is much talked of.

By

By intelligence from Prague, dated February 2, it appears that the Ruſſian troops, which had quitted Gallicia to proceed eaſtwards, are advancing, by forced marches, towards the frontiers of Turkey: a part of theſe troops will remain, it is ſaid, on the frontiers, till the arrival of the troops of another great power, which are to act in concert with them; the reſt will continue their route towards the Ruſſian ports on the Black Sea, where they will embark for an expedition deſtined to oppoſe the attempts of the Engliſh againſt Egypt.

The principal articles of foreign intelligence are the convention that was ſigned on the 20th of December, at Peterſburg, between the plenipotentiaries of that Court and of Sweden, and ratified by their reſpective Sovereigns; with a ſeries of regulations for the Swediſh commerce, publiſhed by the King on the 23d of the ſame month. By the firſt of theſe, it will be ſeen, that the contracting powers acknowledge that their object is to reſtore the ſyſtem of the armed neutrality adopted during the American war. Contraband goods are prohibited from being exported; and the treaty ſpecifies the articles to which that term applies to be, cannon, mortars, fire-arms, gunpowder, flints, ſaltpetre, pikes, ſwords, helmets, &c. The third article avows, that the objects which the two powers have in view are, "That every ſhip may freely navigate from one harbour to another, and on the coaſts of the belligerent nations; that the effects belonging to the ſubjects of the belligerent powers, in neutral ſhips, ſhall be conſidered as free; that, in order to determine what ſhall be conſidered as a blockaded port, ſuch denominations ſhall be admitted to apply only where the diſpoſition and number of the blockading ſhips ſhall be ſuch as to render it hazardous to enter the port."

The contracting powers declare, that the ſyſtem upon which they act, and the principles by which they are guided, ſhall be permanent, and ſhall apply to all future wars. There is alſo a proviſion in the treaty, by which other neutral powers are to be permitted to become parties to it. By the latter, we find, that ſhips ſailing without convoy are to ſubmit to ſearch; and none are to claim the protection of the Swediſh flag but ſhips built in Sweden, and navigated by a crew, of which one-half are to be Swedes. On the news reaching the Court of Stockholm, of the detention in England of Swediſh and Daniſh veſſels, an order of Council was iſſued on the 2d of February, interdicting all intercourſe with England, and laying an embargo on every ſhip of that

country in the ports of Sweden. If the French papers are to be believed alſo, Mr. Talbot, the Britiſh Charge d'Affairs, was ordered to quit the kingdom.

SPAIN.

A Liſbon mail arrived the 17th of March: the private letters contain intelligence, that Spain declared war againſt Portugal on the 22d of February, and that Portugal iſſued a ſimilar declaration againſt Spain, on the 5th of March.

AMERICA.

By intelligence of the 14th of February, we are informed of the ratification of the treaty with France, with the exception of the ſecond article, and limiting the duration of it to eight years. The numbers for it were 22, againſt it 9. Mr. Jefferſon is elected Preſident of the United States of America. The election was conducted with great warmth. The balloting was renewed 31 times during three ſucceſſive days. The 32d time decided the election in favour of Mr. Jefferſon, who had New York, New Jerſey, Pennſylvania, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Kentucky, and Tenneſſe. Mr. Burr had New Hampſhire, Maſſachuſetts, Connecticut, Rhode Iſland, Delaware, and South Carolina. Vermont and Maryland were divided.

GREAT-BRITAIN.

The altercation with the northern powers is ſtill in a ſtate of ſuſpenſe, reſpecting the meaſures to be taken for its adjuſtment. Our fleet has ſailed for the North Seas. But it is ſaid that Sweden and Denmark have made, or are making, proper explanations.

We cannot here help remarking the very general diſtreſs occaſioned among the lower claſſes of the community by the high price of proviſions, and moſt ſincerely wiſh that ſome meaſure could be adopted to alleviate ſo ſerious a calamity. Our ſympathy ſhould be extended to all in diſtreſs, and every effort ſhould be made to relieve the wants and neceſſities of our fellow-creatures. We muſt, however, endure with patience, what cannot, at leaſt for the preſent, be removed. It is our fervent prayer, that the inhabitants of Britain may be reſtored once more to the participation of peace and plenty!

A meeting of the Whig Club was held on the 3d of March, at the Crown and Anchor Tavern in the Strand. Earl Thanet was in the chair, ſupported by a number of noblemen and gentlemen of the firſt diſtinction. The uſual

toaſts

toaſts of the club being drank, the Chairman gave, " His Majeſty, and a ſpeedy and complete recovery to him." Mr. Fox's health being given, he addreſſed the company in a ſhort ſpeech, in which, after thanking them for the renewed expreſſion of their attachment, he ſtated, that though he had for ſome time paſt felt himſelf under the neceſſity of declaring his perſeverance in the ſyſtem of retirement he had adopted, nevertheleſs he had reſolved, in the preſent ſituation of the country, to attend the diſcuſſion of the motion for an Enquiry into the State of the Nation, announced by his Honourable Friend, Mr. Grey. Upon this occaſion he was willing to try whether the Houſe of Commons, in the preſent eventful criſis, would continue that blind ſyſtem of confidence they had ſo long purſued. If the Houſe of Commons, in the preſent difficult and dangerous ſtate of the nation, did not enter into a deep, firm, and thorough enquiry, the country was loſt. Every melancholy preſage, which even the moſt gloomy had indulged, was realiſed—more than the moſt fearful accumulation of evils had actually taken place, and the danger continued to increaſe. In ſuch circumſtances an additional effort to rouſe the nation might be tried; but it depended upon the ſpirit ſhewn by the Houſe of Commons, whether the calamities we had ungone could be relieved, or the dangers we had apprehended could be averted. Mr. Sheridan, on his health being drank, returned his thanks, and among other things ſaid, that after all the experience of the paſt, and the obſervation of the preſent, there could be no other ſentiment among thoſe Members of Parliament who had oppoſed the ſyſtem by which the country had been reduced to its preſent diſtreſs, but to look to his Honourable Friend, Mr. Fox, as the ſeamark to guide their courſe. The healths of the Duke of Bedford, Earl Thanet, Mr. Erſkine, Mr. St. John, the Earl of Albemarle, Mr. Whitbread, and Mr. Mingay were drank with great applauſe.

Subſtance of the moſt intereſting Parts of the Travels of C. F. Damberger, a German, through the interior Parts of Africa, from the Cape of Good Hope to Morocco, between the Years 1781 *and* 1797.

[Continued from Page 268.]

DAMBERGER informs us, that he left the village of the Kamtarrians on the evening of the 7th of October, and reached

reached Buhagari, the border town of the kingdom of Biri, at noon the next day. This town " contains about ſeven hundred huts, and is ſituated on an arm of the river Makumbo. The inhabitants of this kingdom are not altogether ſo ferocious as they are deſcribed to be by their neighbours: they receive and treat ſtrangers with generoſity and kindneſs. The King enjoys but few prerogatives above the chieftains of the villages and towns. The latter are generally governed by two of them, called monihaja (judges); they are, however, at the ſame time prieſts, inſtructors of the children, fortune-tellers, and prophets; they alone poſſeſs the privilege of wearing mantles, made of tyger and zebra-ſkins. A mantle of this deſcription is called algohara bumkara (the prophet's dreſs), and procures to the wearer various marks of reſpect, e. g. all who meet him are obliged to lay the right hand on their head, the left on their breaſt, and remain in this poſture until he is gone by. If any diſputes of conſequence take place, the chiefs are bound to inform the King of their nature, and make a full report of the judgment they have paſſed. In time of war, the chiefs lead the combatants to battle, while the King remains at Buhagari, his uſual place of reſidence, and if this city ſhould be at any time expoſed to an attack, he withdraws to Azahhuia, another town, ſituated on the confines of Kaminaukais, which is under his protection.

" The population of this kingdom amounts to about ſixteen thouſand ſouls; the country is for the moſt part fruitful and well cultivated, yet the breeding of cattle forms the principal branch of induſtry. The inhabitants derive conſiderable advantages from a mine of rock-ſalt, which they exchange for young cattle. The men are fond of hunting, yet do not neglect the cultivation of the ſoil. They are tall and ſtrong, and wear aprons made of palm-leaves. The women are ſhort and luſty, wear aprons ſimilar to thoſe worn by the men, and cover their breaſts with palm-leaves, which they faſten with ſtrings tied behind: they are upon the whole extremely baſhful and modeſt. The colour of this nation is rather yellow than brown. The buſineſs of education is conducted with much ſeverity and rigour; the father inſtructs the boys, and the mother the girls, until they are ſix years old, at which time they are placed under the inſtruction of the monihaja. Of their religious principles, and cuſtoms, I could learn but very little; I obſerved, however, that every morning and evening they performed acts of devotion in the open air, and practiſed circumciſion though without

any attendant ceremony. No marriage can be contracted without the knowledge of the monihaja; nor is any divorce permitted, but in case of barrenness on the part of the wife. The punishment of adultery consists with respect to the adulterer in the loss of his cattle, and the adulteress is expelled from the community. Polygamy is permitted. The usual articles of food are milk, millet, and flour; the latter is eaten mixed with milk: meat is rather scarce. The huts are spacious, and of a circular form; the sides are covered with the bark of trees, and the top with reed-grass.

"I met with a kind reception, was supplied with plenty of provisions, and the monihaja entertained me in his hut. Being invited to remain here for some time, I readily accepted the invitation, this being the hottest of the year. I witnessed the manner of gathering in their harvest, which was conducted rather slowly, but in good order. The day before the harvest began, all the magazines* were searched, and the grain that was found there was distributed among the inhabitants.† On the first day of harvest all the reapers assembled in one place, offered up their prayers, and then marched in procession, headed by the monihaja, to the field, where the ears of the corn were cut off, and immediately threshed on hides. This was done with a kind of roller moved backwards and forwards. The grain freed from the chaff was carried into the magazines, and the straw burnt. In a few days the harvest-feast was celebrated; it lasted two days, and the third was a fast-day. The inhabitants assembled before the hut of the monihaja, every one carrying a palm-branch; and went from thence in procession round the village, kindled a fire, sat down around it and smoaked tobacco. They cultivate barley, millet, and Indian corn. I continued here twelve days, and was treated with great hospitality; they even supplied me with provisions for the continuance of my journey, which I pursued on the 21st of October on the banks of the river Matumbo.

"About noon I reached the village Amahkai, consisting of about forty huts; here I was well received, and supplied with food and drink. I now shaped my route to the north-east to avoid a large mountain which lay before me, and arrived at a lake, where I was obliged to stop. I kindled a fire and endeavoured to catch some fish: I had gathered some muscles,

* These are a kind of cellars, which belong in common to all the inhabitants.

† Two children received as much as one adult.

muſcles, when ſuddenly I heard a voice, crying "*Doha-bahako Nothiaoſer laba,*" (ſtranger, keep away from the lake,) and turning about ſaw three men approaching, who cautioned me with geſtures to beware of the lake, as it was very deep, and in that ſeaſon contained fiſh pernicious to the health. They invited me to follow them, which I did. After an hour's walk, we entered a village, conſiſting of about ſixty huts. I wondered that my preſence attracted ſo little notice from the inhabitants, who, it ſhould ſeem, wiſhed me to believe that they had ſeen many white people.

On the 22d I travelled over a mountain at ſome diſtance from the afore-mentioned river, on which I found a great number of fruit-trees, and eſpecially of plumb-trees.

There are many wild beaſts here: tygers and lions paſſed me, without ſhewing any diſpoſition to attack me; this I aſcribed to their having plenty of food, as the whole track of country abounds with gazelles. The above-mentioned ridge of mountains is of great length, extending from the north-eaſt to the weſt, through the kingdoms of Matamba and Biri. I was obliged to paſs the night on them, but met with no interruption from any wild animal.

(To be continued.)

ADVICE TO AN HISTORIAN.

GREGORIO LETI, a native of Milan, came into England in the reign of Charles II. and received a promiſe of being made hiſtoriographer to the King, but, not giving ſatisfaction, had orders to retire. Being one day at the levee, Charles, turning towards him, ſaid, "Leti, I hear you are writing the hiſtory of the Engliſh Court?" "Sire," replied Leti, "I have been for ſome time preparing materials for ſuch a hiſtory."—"Take care," retorted the King, "that your work give no offence." "I will do what I can, Sire, but if a man were as wiſe as Solomon, he would ſcarce be able to avoid giving offence to ſome." "Why, then," rejoined the Monarch, "be as wiſe as Solomon; write proverbs, but no hiſtories."

A REFLECTION.

TIME properly improved is a poſſeſſion of inеſtimable value.

INSTANCES *of* FOREIGN JUSTICE.

ONE of the ſtrongeſt inſtances of favour to a ſtranger in obtaining his right by action ſeems to have been ſhewn to Fynes Morryſon, at Lyndaw, in Germany; where he not only obtained ſatisfaction from the Judge, but his advocate would not take any fee from him, as being a foreigner. Tavernier mentions, that one of his fellow-travellers happening to die in a Perſian town, a ſeal was immediately put upon the effects of the deceaſed, which, on his return a year afterwards, had not been removed.

AN ANECDOTE.

WHEN one of Lord Monboddo's friends propoſed to ſolicit for him the office of a Judge in the Scotch Criminal Court, his Lordſhip ſaid, "No; I have more pleaſure in looking after my little farm, in the vacation of the Court of Seſſion than I ſhould have to run about the country hanging people."

Anſwer, by W. England, of Lyme, to G. England's Enigma, inſerted January 12.

WHEN ſons of Plutus croſs the ſeas
SELF-INTEREST is their aim;
And when thro' deſart ſands they tread
Self-intereſt guides the rein.

How oft when men their councils plead
Self-intereſt we can ſpy!
And ſurely while the earth remains
Self-intereſt ne'er will die.

Anſwer, by C. B. W. near Taunton, to W. Harris's Charade, inſerted February 2.

AMIDST gay Flora's num'rous tribes,
With varied beauties deck'd,
LARK-SPUR, a ſubject for your lines,
Your genius did ſelect.

*** We have received the like anſwer from Serjeant Whittle, of the Upway Volunteers; Walter Bickham, jun. of Aſhburton; T. Webber, jun. and R. Sellick, jun. Tiverton; T. Taylor, of Bridgewater; Serjeant Towning, of the Fivehead Volunteers; W. B. and R. Baker, of Poole; G. Coulman, of Broadhempſton; W. H. of Briſtol; R. C. Cockell; H. Humphries, J. Squance, T. Whicker, L. H. and J. Smith, of Exeter; T. Churchouſe, of Yeovil; J. H. of Plymouth-Dock; W. Maddick, of Rattery; John Gidley, jun. of Dean Prior; G. England, of Uplyme; W. England, of Uplyme; J. R. Toulmin; G. Geach, of Wadebridge; M. Lowndes, jun. of Buckfaſtleigh; F. Whitford, St. Auſtell; R. Meager, of Luxullian; R. Horſey, Ditcheat; J. Bulgin, of Caſtle Cary; and Sampſon O'Smith.

A REBUS, *by W. H. of Briſtol.*

A Beaſt of prey, of horrid mien,
And ſavage in its mind;
A thing which you have often ſeen,
Its uſe—it is to grind.

If both are join'd, and well tranſpos'd,
A number you will ſee
Whoſe value, if in pounds expos'd
Will of ſome thouſands be.

A CHARADE, *by R. Thomas, of Exeter.*

ERE the day dawn from on high
Shone thro' yonder eaſtern ſky;
Or the ſky-lark's lovely voice
Made each nymph and ſwain rejoice;
Ere the bloſſom's beauteous hue
Deck'd creation with its view;
Or dire war's deſtructive hand
Sent confuſion o'er the land;
Lo! my firſt, in glory bright
Dwelt in infinite delight.
See my next off yonder ſound
Toſs'd upon the vaſt profound,
Where rude billows often prove
Fatal both to joy and love,
There loud thunders dreadful roll
Fill with grief the troubled ſoul;
View yon ſeat in pomp array'd,
Grandeur has its power diſplay'd;
Where my whole in ſtate you'll find,
Winds nor waves diſtreſs his mind.

POETRY.

ADDRESS *to the* SUN.—*A* FRAGMENT.

WRITTEN IN THE SPRING.

[From Fawcett's Poems.]

THOU dazzling ball! Vaſt univerſe of flame!
Idol ſublime! Error's moſt glorious god!
Whoſe peerleſs ſplendours plead in the excuſe
Of him that worſhips thee, and ſhine away
The ſin of Pagan knees! whoſe awful orb,
Tho' truth informs my more enlighten'd creed,
Almoſt entices my o'er o'er-raviſh'd heart
To turn idolater, and tempts my mouth
To kiſs my hand before thee. Nature's pride!
Of matter moſt magnificent diſplay!
Bright maſter-piece of dread Omnipotence!
Ocean of ſplendour! wond'rous world of light!
Thy ſweet return my kindled lays ſalute.

Hail amiable viſion! every eye
Looks up and loves thee; every tongue proclaims,
'Tis pleaſant to behold thee; roſy health,
And laughing joy, thy beauteous daughters, play
Before thy face for ever, and rejoice
In thine indulgent ray. Nature mourns
Thine annual departure; in deſpair,
Like one forſaken by her love, ſhe ſits,
And tears from off her all her gay attire,
And drowns her face in tears, and languid lies,
As if of life devoid: but lo, ſhe lives!
She lives again! her glorious rover comes,
To wake her from her lethargy of woe,
And warm her into beauty with his ſmile.

Fountain of inſpiration! fir'd by thee,
Imagination's ſacred tumults riſe,
And pour upon the fair, immortal page,
The ſplendid image, and the burning word!
O hallow'd hour! o'erflowing with delight!
Moments of more than earthly ecſtacy!
When the bleſt bard, panting beneath thy rays,
Feels the fine rapture ſilently infus'd
Into his agitated breaſt; and full
Of his bright god, with lofty fury raves,
Celeſtially diſturb'd! till the ſtrong flames,
That his whole ſoul to heavenly madneſs heat,
Have ſpent their blaze in all the rage of ſong!

Great conflagration! whoſe immortal fires,
With myſtic, everlaſting fuel fed,
Flame with a generous fury, flame to ſpread
Far other ſcene than ſmoaking ruin round,
Fair flowers and ſmiling verdure, fields that wave

With

With yellow wealth, and boughs that ſtoop beneath
Their bluſhing load, with affluence oppreſt;

Great father of the ſyſtem! round whoſe throne,
In filial circles all thy children ſhine,
Exulting in thy kind, paternal ſmile!
Well-order'd family! for ever free
From jarring ſtrife; harmonious moving on
In eaſy dance; and calling human life
To liſt the muſic of your ſilent glide,
And make its ſocial ſyſtem chime like your's.
Preceptors ſweet of concert and of love!
Had but this noiſy ſcene an ear to learn.

Or is thy name, the ſtudent's ſacred lamp,
Hung up on high, and trimm'd by Heav'n's own hand?
By whoſe pure light, more precious to his eye,
Than that which trembles on his nightly page,
(Man's puny tome,) with ſilent joy he reads
The broad, inſtructive ſheet, which thou haſt held,
All-wiſe inſtructor! to thy pupil, man,
Thro' every age. Invaluable book!
In ſchools unrivall'd, tho' but little read!
Fair, faultleſs piece! Immortal work of Heaven!
Bible of ages! Boundleſs word of God!
Writ in a language to all nations known;
And, thro' all time, with care divine, preſerv'd
From all corrupt interpolations pure.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

On ENVY.

PERNICIOUS bane of human life!
In yonder barren, ſtony cell,
Hold now thy ſolitary reign,
Where nought is heard but furies' yell;
Deny'd the intercourſe of man,
There vent thy ſpleen, and curſt remain;
There ſpend in vain thy fruitleſs rage,
Bound with a firm, coercive chain;
There jealous, grudging merit's fame,
Let conſcience wound thy ſtartled ſoul!
And furies, ſnake, and Hell born woe,
Torment thy breaſt without controul!

JUVENIS.

Tiverton, February 25.

On a BAD WIFE.

POOR Orpheus once, as poets tell,
To find his wife went down to Hell,
So wond'rous was his love;
Like him I'd ſeek the ſhades below,
If I for certain could but know,
That mine would ſtay above.